

TECHNOLOGY IN CLANDESTINE OPERATIONS

In his essay entitled, "Two Cultures", C. P. Snow discusses the widening communications gap between those who have been schooled in the technical disciplines and those who have been schooled in the Arts. That gap is readily apparent in the relationship of technology to clandestine operations, and this barrier can lead to a wasteful imbalance in the system: In some areas technology has drawn far ahead of the CS' agent capabilities while in other areas it has lagged behind. Unless better ways are found to bridge this gap, the Clandestine Service will not fully exploit its technical resource.

Much progress has been made in the past few years, but much still remains to be done. The assignment of senior Operations officers to TSD and the annual [REDACTED] conferences have helped to keep technology on the proper track. At the same time, the detailed briefings of outward-bound Chiefs of Station have contributed to keeping them abreast of the "state-of-the art". Nonetheless, more must be done to give the case officer a better understanding of technology and to restore the balance between technical and human resources.

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